

Patent Claims:

1. One- or multi-layered seamless tubular casing which is permeable to smoke, characterized in that at least one layer of the casing comprises a mixture of polyamide and natural fibres and optionally additives, wherein the sum of the layer thicknesses is between 5 and 200 μm and the permeability of the casing to water vapour, in accordance with ASTM F1249-01 at a temperature of 23 °C and a relative atmospheric humidity of 85 %, is at least 25 $\text{cm}^3/(\text{m}^2 \times \text{day} \times \text{bar})$.
2. Seamless tubular casing according to claim 1, characterized in that it is biaxially or uniaxially stretched or non-stretched.
3. Seamless tubular casing according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that at least one layer of the casing comprises a mixture of natural fibres and a mixture of aliphatic polyamide from the group consisting of PA6, PA11, PA12, PA66, PA6/66, PA6.8, PA6.9, PA6.10, PA6.11 and PA6.12, a copolymer from the monomer units contained therein or a mixture of the aliphatic polyamides mentioned.
4. Tubular film according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that at least one layer of the casing comprises 30 - 99.9 wt.% of an aliphatic polyamide and/or copolyamide and/or a mixture of the same and/or (partly) aromatic PA and/or olefinic (co)polymer from the group consisting of (EVA, EVOH, ionomer resin) and/or (co)polyester and 0.1 - 70 wt.% of natural fibres, based on the total weight of the layer, the wt.% values of the polymer, additives and the natural fibres in each case adding up to 100 wt.%.
5. Seamless tubular casing according to one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the natural fibres are cellulose fibres having a fibre length in the range of from 5 to 10,000 μm .
6. Seamless tubular casing according to claim 1, characterized in that the seamless tubular casing comprises at least 3 layers, wherein

- 5 - the inner layer comprises 30 to 100 wt.% of aliphatic polyamide from the group consisting of PA6, PA11, PA12, PA66, PA6/66, PA6.8, PA6.9, PA6.10, PA6.11 and PA6.12, a copolymer from the monomer units contained therein or a mixture of the aliphatic polyamides mentioned and 0 to 70 wt.% of cellulose fibres and optionally additives,
- 10 - the middle layer comprises 30 to 100 wt.% of aliphatic polyamide from the group consisting of PA6, PA11, PA12, PA66, PA6/66, PA6.8, PA6.9, PA6.10, PA6.11 and PA6.12, a copolymer from the monomer units contained therein or a mixture of the aliphatic polyamides mentioned and 0 to 70 wt.% of cellulose fibres and optionally additives and
- 15 - the outer layer comprises 30 to 100 wt.% of aliphatic polyamide from the group consisting of PA6, PA11, PA12, PA66, PA6/66, PA6.8, PA6.9, PA6.10, PA6.11 and PA6.12, a copolymer from the monomer units contained therein or a mixture of the aliphatic polyamides mentioned and 0 to 70 wt.% of cellulose fibres and optionally additives.
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- 25 7. Use of a seamless tubular casing according to one of claims 1 to 6 for wrapping paste-like or liquid fillings.
- 8. Use according to claim 7, characterized in that the paste-like filling is sausage meat.